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Dear Josh,

Thanks for your friendly note.

I am sorry that, when we last met, you had no opportunity to tell me about the (apparently already then contemplated) changes in your personal existence, and thus to unburden yourself somewhat. Having gone through a similar experience, I know that, whatever the reasons and circumstances, it cannot be but a very painful one, and that it is a relief to have somebody share one's thoughts, feelings, and inevitable doubts.

If we had a chance to talk about this, I would have told you my own story. The essence of it is that there came a moment in my life when I saw that, unless I make a new start, - for which an opportunity presented itself, - I shall never have fully "realized myself"; and that, the full realization of one's potential being the only possible goal one can set for oneself in life, I cannot miss the chance, whatever its immediate costs, <sup>to</sup> however badly it hurts to hurt another human being.

Your very concise description of your present state and hopes for the future makes me believe that a similar motivation, consciously or unconsciously, is at the bottom of the step you have taken.

You ask whether I am surprised? Frankly - I am not. Whenever I met you and Esther together, I felt sorry for both of you because your relationship with her seemed to me too purely intellectual, and therefore not a favorable one for the realization of the "affective segment" of your potential; and, hence, that it probably will not last.

If these guesses happen to be right (this is a statement, not a question!), I ~~don't~~ feel no less sorry for the suffering both Esther and you have to go through, but I would have no doubt that the step is in the right direction and that, in the long run, will be a rewarding one.

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The situation at Gif, Harrietts status, etc. are in process of clarification and will be, I am sure, satisfactory, and we enjoy, in many ways, the idea of returning to France. Among the factors are some negative ones, such as the unbearable moral atmosphere in this Department which is really falling apart (our resignation was preceded by another, most spectacular one; and will undoubtedly be followed by several critical ones in the very near future), as well as some positive ones, among which Anne's education is a very important one. However, this last year here will no doubt be the most difficult one in our lives; we are both working incredibly hard to liquidate things here and to organize Labs and home 4,000 miles away. On the material side, this move is a financial catastrophe. For example: the addition of a wing (4 rooms) to our very primitive house in Gif will cost us about \$ 35,000 - more than we paid here for a beautiful house.

I certainly hope that we shall meet again in not too remote a future. I en-

joyed our last meeting, in San Francisco, tremendously. May be you could stop in Cleveland one of these days,- may be it would be good for you at this stage to get away for a few days, and to talk to a friend, instead of "fermenting in a closed system". You certainly would be a most welcome guest: need I say that both Harriett and I admire you and have for you a deep affection?

Chances of seeing you in California are apparently limited to the middle of June because my schedule is getting more and more crowded as the date (July 5) of our sailing to France approaches. But I did commit myself to participation in the Symp. Soc. Exp. Biology, in La Jolla, June 19-21. May be we could meet then.

But, I repeat; would it not be good for you to make a jump to Cleveland? If a justification is needed, a seminar and discussions on hybridization of somatic cells provide an excellent and genuine one. Please, give it a thought!

*serials*

En toute amitié

*Boriz*